

Application No.: 10/759,319
Amendment dated August 4, 2005
Reply to Office Action of May 4, 2005

Atty. Docket 74-HA-133457/10081-010

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A communications device to be carried by an operator for controlling operation of an unmanned locomotive over a track layout in a train yard, said locomotive operable over a plurality of alternative track routes to reach a respective destination from a plurality of possible destinations in said track layout, said track layout including a plurality of switches configured to alter a route for a locomotive running along said track layout, said communications device comprising:

a first user display for use by said operator in commanding a desired destination for the locomotive within said track layout by setting the state of the switches along the route to the destination; and

a second user display for use by said operator in controlling movement of the locomotive along said track layout, wherein the combination of said first and second user displays in said communications device allows respective command and control operations to be performed by said operator with respect to the unmanned locomotive for performing train yard activities.

2. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the displays are made on a single display device having first and second modes of operation.

3. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the displays are made on two display devices, one for each display.

4. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the second display is made on a graphic user interface enabling data input from the operator.

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5. (Currently Amended) A communications device to be carried by an operator for controlling operation of an unmanned locomotive over a track layout in a train yard, said locomotive operable over a plurality of alternative track routes to reach a respective destination from a plurality of possible destinations in said track layout, said track layout including a plurality of switches configured to alter a route for a locomotive running along said track layout, said communications device comprising:

a user display enabling ~~an~~ said operator to command a desired destination for the locomotive within said track layout by said operator setting the state of the switches along the route to the destination without intervention from other personnel.

6. (Currently Amended) A communications device to be carried by an operator for controlling operation of an unmanned locomotive over a track layout in a train yard, said locomotive operable over a plurality of alternative track routes to reach a respective destination from a plurality of possible destinations in said track layout, said track layout including a plurality of switches configured to alter a route for a locomotive running along said track layout, said communications device comprising:

a graphical user interface for use by said operator for commanding a desired destination for said locomotive within said track layout, said graphical user interface configured to display to said operator a representation of said track layout, and wherein said representation allows ~~an~~ said operator to monitor operational conditions of the switches that may develop along the route of the locomotive.

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7. (Currently Amended) A communications device to be carried by an operator for controlling operation of an unmanned locomotive over a track layout in a train yard, said locomotive operable over a plurality of alternative track routes to reach a respective destination from a plurality of possible destinations in said track layout, said track layout including a plurality of switches configured to alter a path for a locomotive running along said track layout, said communications device comprising:

a user display to be used by said operator for commanding a desired destination for the locomotive within said track layout, said user display responsive to a verification message indicative of whether a switching combination for the locomotive route for reaching the desired destination has been executed.

Claim 8 cancelled.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 81 wherein the commanded desired destination from the communications device is transmitted to the train yard control system via communications equipment onboard the locomotive.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 97 wherein the verification message confirmation from said yard control system is transmitted to the communications device via communications equipment onboard the locomotive.

Claims 11 – 12 cancelled.